

Kazuhiro KOTO, *et al.*
Serial No. 10/764,583
January 2, 2009

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The rejection of claims 13-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being made "obvious" based on Hinds '331 in view of the "admitted prior art" and the rejection of claims 15-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being made "obvious" based on Hinds/admitted prior art in further view of Ford '698 are both respectfully traversed. However, since these claims have now been cancelled above without prejudice or disclaimer in order to speed allowance of this entire application, these grounds of rejection have now been mooted and it is, therefore, not necessary at this time to detail reasons for such traversal.

There being no other remaining issues, a formal notice of allowance for allowed claims 1, 7, 10-12, 17 and 18 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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